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LA., THURSDAY MORNING,

WAR ON CRIME MOVES URGED

Kohn Delivers Talk at YMBC Meeting

"It is about time more people were asking questions about the power invested in the district attorney's office, and about emotional problems that may exist there," was Aaron Kohn's opening remark at a meeting of the Young Men's Business Club Wednesday.

Saying no more on that subject the executive director of the Metropolitan Crime Commission went on to ennumerate "specific directions to pursue" in combatting the accelerated crime situation in the state.

Kohn said there was a great need for a governor's commission on law enforcement and the administration of justice, "which has been promised by Gov. McKeithen for two years but is not yet activated."

"We need and must have a professional state department of corrections," he said. He also called for longer sessions of the state Legislature where legislators would have a longer time to study bills so that undesirable ones do not slip through.

Kohn said the sheriff's office must be converted, so that its employes will be taken out of competitive politics and under career civil service, to avoid situations like the one involving Sheriff Ourso in Iberville parish.

As for the judicial system, there should be more impartiality in selecting judges, using an appointment system based "on merit and not ability to build political alliances."

There should also be a more orderly way of removing judges so that judiciary can maintain the respect it deserves, he said.

Revisions should also be made in the grand jury system, he said. The office of justice of the peace should be done away with since it "only hampers law enforcement."

He also suggested that the district attorney be required to publish a list periodically of those persons arrested and not yet brought to trial to cut down on the numbers of those never brought to trial.